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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 30, 2022 8:55 PM  
**To:** JudTestimony  
**Cc:** Senator Abrams; Rep. Williams, Quentin  
**Subject:** OPPOSE - SB 16 AN ACT ADDRESSING GUN VIOLENCE AND JUVENILE CRIME

I ask you to VOTE NO on SB 16.

All these laws that focus on **banning certain guns will NOT stop one single crime**. Criminals, by their very nature and definition, don't give a hoot about the law.

This proposed law is designed to make it more difficult for law-abiding citizens to exercise their Constitutional right to defend themselves.

At the time the US Constitution was written, the drafters of our founding document did not restrict the type of weapon a citizen could legally use. When the US Constitution was written in 1787, citizens had access to own pistols, rifles, and cannon.

With just a wee bit of research, you will find in Wikipedia there were as many as 10 multi-shot firearm inventions prior to the ratifying of our US Constitution, including "The Puckle Gun" invented May 15, 1718 (an early machine gun created 70 YEARS before our country was founded), a fact that educated colonial leaders, such as the drafters of the US Constitution would have known about, yet the framers of our governing document never felt compelled to restrict the type of firearm that could be owned by ordinary citizens of the new United States of America. Shouldn't this be a clue to our current legislators that lawful citizens will responsibly own advanced weapons and if necessary, utilize them in a lawful means to defend themselves, their families and their country?

I urge you to once again VOTE NO to restricting our right to bear arms. Even our Connecticut Constitution Article 1, Section 15 affords us the right to defend ourselves and our State. I urge you not to make law-abiding citizens victims to crime because of pressure from fearful anti-gunners. It is the criminal that kills. The tool they use does not kill without the criminal intent to wield it.

Thank you,  
Joan Liska  
Middletown, CT